

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 SCCT-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 OMB-01 /097 W

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R 190932Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3432

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 2531

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, KS, JA

SUBJ: JAPANESE STUDENTS DETAINED BY ROKG

REF: TOKYO 4862

1. JAPANESE EMBASSY POL COUNS OKAZAKI TOLD POL COUNS TODAY (APRIL 19) THAT JAPANESE EMBASSY "LESS OPTIMISTIC" THAN IT HAD BEEN ABOUT EARLY RELEASE OF TWO JAPANESE STUDENTS DETAINED BY ROKG UNDER EMERGENCY MEASURE NO. 4 (REFTEL).

2. OKAZAKI SAID THAT JAPANESE HAD EXPECTED THE TWO STUDENTS MIGHT BE RELEASED APRIL 18 OR 19. HOWEVER, IN MID-WEEK KOREAN INVESTIGATIVE AUTHORITIES SURFACED FOR THE FIRST TIME POSSIBILITY OF COMMUNIST LINKS IN TERMS OF THEIR ACTIVITIES IN CONNECTION WITH ARRESTED ROK ACTIVIST LEADER YU IN-T'AE.

3. OKAZAKI SAID THAT GOJ AND ROKG HAD ORIGINALLY AGREED THAT PURPOSES OF NEITHER GOVERNMENT WOULD BE SERVED BY PUBLICITY WITH REGARD TO DETENTION OF THE TWO JAPANESE. OKAZAKI SAID GOJ HAD BEEN HAPPY TO AGREE ON THAT POINT SINCE THERE NO QUESTION BOTH "FORMALLY" VIOLATED EMERGENCY MEASURE NO. 4 BY POSSESSION OF NATIONAL FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH AND STUDENTS (NFDYS) LEAFLETS. SAID IT ALSO POSSIBLE THAT THEY HAD SUBSTANTIALLY VOILATED EMERGENCY
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MEASURE SINCE BOTH HAD BEEN IN CONTACT WITH YU. HOWEVER, JAPANESE EMBASSY HAD RECEIVED INFORMAL INDICATIONS FROM ROKG THAT TWO WOULD BE RELEASED AFTER INTERROGATIONS COMPLETED, IF MATTER KEPT QUIET.

4. POL COUNS ASKED OKAZAKI WHETHER HE HAD ANY INFORMATION ON WHETHER THE TWO INVOLVED HAD IN FACT COMMUNIST TIES. OKAZAKI SAID THE POLICE RECORDS OF TWO WERE CLEAR BUT HE UNDERSTOOD THEY HAD BEEN STUDENT LEADERS AT THEIR UNIVERSITIES IN JAPAN. SAID THAT THEIR ORIENTATION APPEARS HOWEVER NOT TO HAVE BEEN COMMUNIST.

4. OKAZAKI SAID THAT JAPANESE EMBASSY NOT GIVING UP HOPE FOR RELEASE THIS WEEKEND, BUT IF TWO ARE NOT RELEASED SOON, GOJ WILL NOT BE ABLE TO RESTRAIN JAPANESE PRESS MUCH LONGER.

HABIB

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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